

The Chinese Exhibition

The Exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China

The William Rockhill Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum of Fine Arts

April 20th to June 8th, 1975

中华人民共和国出土文物展览

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRONZE MEMORIAL TO BE COMMISSIONED

AS LASTING EXHIBITION SYMBOL IN KC

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- A giant bronze replica of the "Flying (Galloping) Horse of Kansu" is being commissioned here as a lasting American memorial to the Chinese Exhibition.

The famed exhibition ended its seven-week Kansas City visit on June 8. It will open at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco June 28. Kansas City and San Francisco are among only eight world cities to host the exhibition.

Trustees of the Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum announced that L. E. "Gus" Shafer, a Kansas City sculptor, will produce the model for the giant casting. Shafer is well-known for his works _____.

The monumental work of the "Flying (Galloping) Horse" will measure _____ long by _____ wide by _____ high. It will take _____ years to complete. While the final site for the monument has not yet been determined, the horse most likely will be the focal point of a large fountain to be located in the area of Kansas City's Plaza district.

(more)

The Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum, Telephone 816-561-4000
4525 Oak Street Kansas City, Missouri 64111

The original "Flying (Galloping) Horse of Kansu" is one of the most famous works of art in the world today. Measuring ____ inches (45 cm.) long by ____ inches (34.5cm.) high, it was unearthed in the Kansu Province of China in 1969 as part of a hoard of artifacts buried with a powerful general. The objects date to the Han Dynasty of the 2nd Century AD.

A significant art treasure, this unique, lively horse is galloping with its head and tail high. In ancient China a belief was that special "flying or celestial" horses carried the dead to the afterworld. To show that its speed is greater than that of a bird, the unknown craftsman placed its right hind hoof on a swallow in flight. The bird looks back in amazement. The artist skillfully balanced the galloping horse by using the body of the swallow to enlarge the horse's contact point with the ground.

In executing a model for the memorial, the sculptor will work from photographs taken of the horse at the time it was removed from its display case at Kansas City's Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum. The actual bronze casting will be done in Europe from the sculptor's model.

Commenting on the commission, L.E. "Gus" Shafer said (short quote from Shafer saying what an honor it is, etc.).

Kansas City civic leaders responsible for the idea of the lasting memorial include Herman Sutherland, _____ of Sutherland Lumber, Miller Nichols, _____ of _____, (and any others to be named.)

MEMORANDUM

June 6, 1975

To: M. Wilson
From: R. Martin
Subject: Horse Memorial

cc: L. Sickman
T. Coe
R. Taggart
J. Lamberton

This is a reminder that arrangements need to be made to photograph the "Flying Horse" when it's removed from the case next week.

John Lambertson has the drawings from L. E. "Gus" Shafer, the sculptor, and will talk to Shafer about specific requirements for photography. Basically, Shafer needs photographs - to scale - of the horse taken from many angles, including a shot from above.

The attached letter to Shafer confirms tentative arrangements.

Please pass along this information to Herman Sutherland and others involved in the project as appropriate.

{ Also attached is a proposed news release which can go out after the exhibition has departed and facts about the memorial are more detailed.

#####

fordeconex

June 6, 1975

Mr. L. E. "Gus" Shafer
8308 West 61st Street
Merriam, Kansas 66202

Dear Mr. Shafer:

This is to bring you up-to-date on the "Flying (Galloping) Horse" memorial.

The Chinese have agreed to the proposal regarding a permanent bronze memorial here in Kansas City. The actual horse will be photographed next week upon its removal from its display case. John Lamberton, a freelance photographer, will do the work. He has the drawings which you provided to me and will speak to you about them before beginning his photography.

Perhaps it can be arranged that you are present at the time of photography to assure the views you require. Please contact Marc Wilson, Curator of Oriental Art, here at the gallery, 561-4000, about the shooting.

We very much appreciate your interest. I am certain Mr. Herman Sutherland and/or Mr. Miller Nichols will be in contact with you in the near future regarding formal commissioning of this project.

Sincerely,

Robert K. (Rob) Martin
Project Director

Marvin

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 1975

To: M. Wilson
From: R. Martin *RHM*
Subject: News Release Concerning Horse Memorial
cc: L. Sickman

Suggested copy is attached. It will need clarification once some of the additional details concerning the commission are settled. Beverly will follow up with you on this.

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ACCOUNT COPY

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

The William Rockhill Nelson Trust

ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

4525 OAK STREET

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

(816) 561-4000

Invoice No.

1804

PLEASE PUT THIS NUMBER ON REMITTANCE

SOLD TO • Miller Nichols
J. C. Nichols Company
301 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64112

Invoice Date	7/22/75	P.O. #	Terms - 30/Net Min. Billing - \$2.25	Shipped via
Photographic services rendered by Lamberton Photo Service for documentation of the "Flying Horse"				
9 hours for shooting, processing and printing	\$10.00/hr	\$ 90.00		
materials, paper and chemistry		16.00		
		\$106.00		

CREDIT

Restrict account of Miller Nichols "Flying Horse"

LAMBERTON PHOTO SERVICE

516 e. 44th no. 2

Kansas City, Mo. 64110

816•531•5336

July 22, 1975

STATEMENT - Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum
4525 Oak
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Photographic services rendered for documentation of the
"Flying Horse"

9 hours for shooting, processing and printing @ \$10.00/hr	\$90.00
materials, paper and chemistry	<u>16.00</u>
TOTAL	\$106.00

Marc F. Wilson

July 16, 1975

Mr. Herman Sutherland
Sutherland Lumber Company
4000 Main
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Good Sir:

Accompanying this letter are the photographs of the "Flying Horse" which Gus Schaeffer will need for making the fountain.

For the record, there are eight 16 x 20" black and white prints (4 views, 2 each) and forty-three 8 x 10" black and white prints.

How should the billing for the photographer's time and materials be handled?

Yours sincerely,

Marc F. Wilson
Curator of Oriental Art

MFW/d

cc: Laurence Sickman

Sutherland Lumber Co.



KANSAS CITY, MO.

July 16, 1975

Mr. Marc F. Wilson
Nelson Gallery of Art
4525 Oak St.
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Marc:

Please send the bills for the photographer's time and materials to Miller Nichols, 301 Ward Parkway.

Sincerely,

Herman
H. Sutherland

HS: cc

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART**No. 4116**

4525 OAK STREET

KANSAS CITY, MO. 64111

816-561-4000

Please put this Number on your Invoice

July 22, 1975

To LAMBERTON PHOTO SERVICE

INVOICE NO.	INVOICE DATE	OUR ORDER NO.
<u>7/22/75</u>		

Photographic services rendered for documentation of the
"Flying Horse"

9 hours for shooting, processing and printing @\$10.00/hr	\$90.00
materials, paper and chemistry	<u>16.00</u>
	\$106.00

Issued
By:Sherwood SongerApproved
By:

CHARGE:

Restricted account of Miller Nichols "Flying Horse"